

REMARKS

Upon entry of this paper, no claims have been amended, claim 5 has been canceled, and no claims have been added as new claims. Thus, claims 1, 3 and 4 are presently pending in this application. No new matter has been added. The cancellation of claim 5 should in no way be construed to be an acquiescence to any of the rejections stated. Claim 5 is being canceled solely to expedite the prosecution of the present application. Applicant reserves the option to further prosecute the same or similar claims in the instant or a subsequent patent application.

Applicant gratefully thanks the examiner for the indication of allowability of claims 1, 3, and 4. To place the present application in condition for allowance, Applicant has canceled claim 5 (the only rejected claim) and amended the Specification to include an Abstract. As such, Applicant believes the pending application to be in condition for allowance.

Abstract Objections

The specification was objected to as not including an Abstract. Accordingly, Applicants have provided herewith a new Abstract based on the language of allowed claim 1. As such, Applicants submit that no new matter has been added. If the Examiner has any further objections to the specification or abstract, the Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's below-signed representative to discuss.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by US Patent No. 5,606,621 to Reiter. Applicants in this submission have canceled claim 5. Accordingly, claim 5 no longer stands rejected, thus the pending claims are not anticipated by Reiter.

In light of the above remarks, and amendment, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims of the present invention are not anticipated by, and are therefore in condition for allowance over, the cited document.

In summary, independent claim 1 and all remaining dependent claims depending therefrom are allowable as confirmed by the most recent Office Action. As such, with the cancellation of claim 5, there are no remaining claims that are rejected or objected to by the Examiner.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance. Applicant courteously solicits allowance of the claims in the form of a Notice of Allowance. Should there be any outstanding issues of patentability following the entry of this response, a telephone interview is respectfully requested to resolve such issues.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this statement. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 12-0080, under Order No. HHI-035USRCE from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: May 19, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Sean D. Detweiler

Registration No.: 42,482
LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP
28 State Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02109
(617) 227-7400
(617) 742-4214 (Fax)
Attorney/Agent For Applicant